

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 071768  
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 EUR-12 ISO-00 SIG-03 MMO-04 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-14 HA-05 AID-05  
TRSE-00 OMB-01 /128 R

DRAFTED BY AF/P:BARUSSELL:MR  
APPROVED BY AF/P:RWHOLLIDAY  
-----068167 210637Z /11

R 202345Z MAR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
USINT HAVANA  
XMT AMEMBASSY FREETOWN  
AMEMBASSY LOME  
AMEMBASSY BANGUI  
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY ACCRA  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
AMEMBASSY DAKAR  
AMEMBASSY KIGALI  
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY  
AMEMBASSY MBABANE  
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY  
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA  
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT  
AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO  
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA  
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE

UNCLAS STATE 071768  
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PAGE 02 STATE 071768

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT:DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING, MARCH 20, 1978

FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE NOON BRIEFING, MARCH 20, 1978:

Q: ANYTHING ON THE STATUS OF ACTIVITIES ON THE HORN? ANYTHING ON THE STATUS OF THE MOOSE MISSION, AND ANYTHING ON THE CUBAN PRESENCE., WHETHER IT'S STILL BEING REINFORCED.. WHETHER IT'S MOVING TO ERITREA?

A: ON THE MOOSE TRIP: MR. MOOSE ARRIVED IN MOGADISCIO SATURDAY AND WILL BE THERE UNTIL TODAY OR TOMORROW. HE IS EXPECTED TO RETURN IN MID-WEEK. I WON'T HAVE ANY COMMENT UNTIL AFTER HE REPORTS TO THE PRESIDENT. AS YOU KNOW HE HAS SIGNED A FOOD FOR PEACE AGREEMENT WITH THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT. IT INVOLVES AN ADDITIONAL 7 MILLION DOLLAR TITLE 1 PL 480.

ON THE HORN: THE OAU CONTINUES TO PURSUE ITS MEDIATION EFFORT. THE ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED MEETING HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL EARLY APRIL WHEN ALL THE PARTIES CAN BE PRESENT. WE SUPPORT THAT EFFORT.

ON CUBANS: WE'RE WHERE WE WERE. I THINK THE FIGURE WAS 13,000.

Q: HAS THE SOVIET UNION RESPONDED OFFICIALLY TO THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH IN WINSTON SALEM?

A: I DON'T KNOW THAT I'VE SEEN ANYTHING OFFICIAL...YOU'VE UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 STATE 071768

READ THEIR COMMENTARIES.

(WHEN PRESSED, JOHN TRATTNER TOOK THE QUESTION)

Q: DOES THE U.S. HAVE ANY INFORMATION TO SUPPORT THE VIEW THAT THE BRITISH RAISED UP AMIN TO OVERTHROW MILTON OBOTE IN UGANDA?

(THE REPORTER QUOTED CONNOR C. O'BRIEN AS SAYING THAT AMBASSADOR YOUNG HAD MADE THAT REMARK IN A SPEECH AT HEW. JOHN WAS PRESSED TO TAKE THE QUESTION OF WHAT THE DEPARTMENT'S POSITION WAS AND WHETHER YOUNG WOULD CLARIFY HIS COMMENT)

JOHN WAS ASKED SEVERAL QUESTIONS ABOUT SENDING OBSERVERS TO THE OGADEN. HE USED THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE:

ETHIOPIA HAS INDICATED TO US THAT IT WILL ARRANGE FOR REPRESENTATIVES OF FRIENDLY GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL DONOR AGENCIES TO MAKE EARLY VISITS TO THE DISTRESSED AREAS OF THE OGADEN IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DRAWING UP OF ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS FOR WAR VICTIMS. WE ALSO ANTICIPATE

THE EARLY PRESENCE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS.

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY REPORT ON THE PRETORIA MEETING ON  
RHODESIA?

A: I DON'T.

Q: IS ANDY YOUNG ON HIS WAY TO AFRICA?

A: NOT THAT I'VE HEARD OF. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS CONFERENCES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Document Number:** 1978STATE071768  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** BARUSSELL:MR  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DEPARTMENT OF STATE PRESS BRIEFING, MARCH 20, 1978 FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE NOON BRIEFING, MARCH 20, 1978  
**TAGS:** PFOR, SOPN, PBOR, EAID, US, SO, UR, UK  
**To:** AF POSTS LONDON MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014